duct and negligence against medical professionals.

All the services which are hired for a consideration are covered under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission *in a judgement has held that contract of* personal services stems from master-servant relationship. The relation between a patient and the professional doctors does not come with in that category. Further Consumer Protection Act, only provides for additional remedy to the consumers for the redressal of their grievances against services which are hired for a consideration. It is for the consumer to decide the forum where he wants to seek redressal.

Supreme Court Judgement of Compulsory Retirement

5627. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since studied the implications of the recent Supreme Court judgement that the Government can compulsorily retire its employees without assigning any reason or following the principles of natural justice;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the follow-up action being taken thereon;

(d) whether this matter has been discussed with the Staff Associations also; and

(e) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE *MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI* MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court judgement dated 19th February, 1992 in the case of Shri Baikuntha Nath Das & another Vs. Chief District Medical Officer Baripada & another, has clarified the legal issues involved in the existing Govt. instructions on the subject. These have been noted by the Govt. and no special action on them is called for.

Poverty Alleviation Programmes

5628. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI BABU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to pay greater attention under poverty alleviation programmes to the backward, drought prone, desert, hilly and tribal areas by introducing micro planning reaching to the district and block level;

(b) if so, the details regarding its progress during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, particularly in the State of Maharashtra; and

(c) the schemes whcih are proposed to be undertaken for up lift of backward areas in the State of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statements I and II giving the financial and physical performance under various poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas of the country and in Maharashtra State

during the Seventh Five Year Plan are attached.

During Seventh Plan, flow to TSP from State Plans was of the order of Rs. 6216.76 crores constituting 8.84% of the total State Plan of the concerned States. The Maharashtra, out of the total State Plan of Rs. 10,500 crores, the flow to TSP was Rs. 531.21 crores (5.06%) during the Seventh Plan. The SCA released during Seventh Plan for TSP was Rs. 846.95 crores (expenditure Rs. 586.00 crores) and in case of Maharashtra it was 60.61 crores (expenditure Rs. 49.76 crores). Against the target of economically assisting 41.56 lakh ST families below the poverty line during the Seventh Plan, the achievement was 52.89 lakh families (127.27%). In case of Maharashtra, the target was to assist 3.87 lakh ST families during the same period, and the achievement was 4.87 lakh ST families (126.03%).

As regards micro-level planning, various States including Maharashtra have strengthened their planning machinery both at State and disitrict level, provided untied funds to facilitate local initiative in planning and undertaken the preparartion of District Level Plans during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

(c) No Specific new scheme in respect of development of backward areas in the State of Maharashtra is proposed to be taken up. However, removal of regional imbalance is one of the basic aims of State Government policy. During 8th Plan Period it is envisaged to lay emphasis on removal of the estimated regional backloh in various sectors of development. In addition, the State Government has also proposed a Special Action Plan for certain inaccessible tribal areas. In 1989, Special Action Programme for Gadchiroli and parts of chandrapur and Dhule district was formulated with the objective of ensuring certain minimum developments of these areas within a definite time frame-work. Under this programme emphasis has been laid on providing better facilities for Communication (through road network), electrification, education, health, employment, irrigation, nutrition etc. Encouraged by the progress made under the SAP of the above mentioned districts, Government sanctioned similar programmes for the extremely backward tribal taluka of Kinwat in Nanded district and part of Yavatmal district in April,1990, and July, 1991 respectively.

STATEMENT-I

(Rs. lakhs)

S. No.	Programme	MAHARASHTRA		ALL INDIA	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
I.	I.R.D.P.	22,152.64	23,724.29	300026.91	331582.17
II.	N.R.E.P.	22,204.38	17,019.36	294287.48	293386.80
III.	R.L.E.G.P.	18,507.65	16,227.05	254502.00	241198.94
IV.	J.R.Y.	20,993.90	21.059.06	268970.62	245853.76
V.	D.P.A.P.	5,688.52	5,893,98	43589.34	46185.91
	Total :	89,547.09	83,923.74	1161376.35	1158807.58

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	Programme	Unit	MAHARASHTRA		ALL INDIA	
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.	IRDP					
	Households to be assisted/assisted	Nos	11,02,855	12 21 195	16035232	181785529
II.	NREP					
	Employment to be generated/ generated	Lakh Mandays	931.06	1,008 40	12093 19	14775.36
III	RLEGP					
	Employment to be generated/ generated	Lakh Mandays	946.42	1,010.78	9710.13	11543.82
IV.	JRY					
	Employment to be generated/ generated	Lakh Mandays	749.60	795.93	8757.25	8643.87

S. No.	Programme	Unit	MAHARASHTRA		ALL INDIA	
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
V.	DPAP					
i)	Land Development	'00 Hects	567.39	489.36	5980.68	4774.83
ii)	Water Resources Development	'00 Hects	1063.30	521.58	4280.81	2095.76
iii)	Forestry	00 Hects	773.62	762.65	3814.28	3741.66